

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 48, 60 and 63, and add new claims 65-70 as follows:

1-47. (Cancelled).

48. (Currently Amended) A paper stock composition comprising:
alkyl ketene dimer AKD in an amount of 1-20 7 dry lbs/ton of stock;
an acrylic acid containing material in an amount of at least 35[[-40]] dry lbs/ton of
the stock;

a crosslinking agent in an amount sufficient to crosslink the acrylic acid
containing material, the crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of
ammonium oxide, calcium oxide, magnesium oxide, magnesium stearate, isostearate,
calcium stearate, stannous oxide, tungsten oxide, ~~titanium oxide~~, sodium tungstrate,
sodium tungstrate dehydrate, zinc octoate, aluminum stearate, aluminum oxide, zinc
salts of fatty acids, zinc oxide, zirconium oxide, calcium ~~isostearate~~ isostearate, calcium
salts of fatty acids, magnesium salts of fatty acids, and aluminum salts of fatty acids;
and

wood fibers; wherein the acrylic acid containing material is [cationic]
poly(methylmethacrylate).

49. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, further comprising
akylene succinic anhydride.

50. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, further comprising
starch.

51. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein the wood fibers comprise recycled fibers.

52. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein the wood fibers comprise virgin fibers.

53. (Previously Presented) The composition claim 48, additionally comprising a further polymerizable cationic composition.

54. (Previously Presented) The composition of 48, wherein the acrylic acid containing material is selected from the group consisting of homopolymers or copolymers of acrylic acid.

55. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, wherein the at least one alkyl ketene dimer is at least one selected from the group consisting of:

octyl, decyl, dodecyl, tetradecyl, hexadecyl, octadecyl, eicosyl, docosyl, tetracosyl, phenyl, benzyl, beta-naphthyl and cyclohexyl ketene dimers;

ketene dimers prepared from montanic acid, naphthenic acid, $\Delta^{9,10}$ -decylenic acid, $\Delta^{9,10}$ -dodecylenic acid, palmitoleic acid, oleic acid, ricinoleic acid, linolenic acid, and eleostearic acid; and

β -lactones; and

ketene dimers prepared from naturally occurring mixtures of fatty acids.

56. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 48, further comprising ammonium hydroxide.

57. (Cancelled).

58. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 57, wherein the alkyl ketene dimer is cationic.

59. (Cancelled).

60. (Currently Amended) A method of making paper comprising:
providing the paper stock composition of claim 48 in a headbox, wherein the
~~alkyl ketene dimer is present in an amount of 1-10 dry lbs/ton of stock.~~

61. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 60, wherein the paper being made is selected from the group consisting of Kraft, linerboard and medium.

62. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 60, further comprising adding a starch containing component to the furnish.

63. (Previously Presented) A furnish comprising the paper composition of claim 48 in an excess of water.

64. (Previously Presented) A method of making paper comprising adding to a furnish the composition of claim 48.

65. (New) The paper stock composition of claim 48, wherein the cross-linking agent is zinc oxide.

66. (New) The paper stock composition of claim 48, wherein the acrylic acid containing material is a methacrylic acid containing material.

67. (New) The paper stock composition of claim 48, wherein the AKD is alkyl ketene dimers.

68. (New) The paper stock composition of claim 48, wherein the AKD is alkenyl ketene dimers.

69. (New) The paper stock composition of claim 48, further comprising alkyl succinic anhydride.

70. (New) The paper stock composition of claim 48, wherein the poly(methyl methacrylate) is cationic.